

NEA-10

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**AIRGRAM**

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(Departmental and Foreign Service)

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TO : Secstate WASHINGTON

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DATE: April 12, 1962

FROM : Amembassy, NEW DELHI

SUBJECT : Press Report on Secretary Rusk's April 5 Testimony before Senate For. Rel. Committee

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April 6 Times of India carried lengthy Reuters report from Washington on Secretary Rusk's testimony before Senate Foreign Relations Committee April 5. Secretary reportedly said US regretted Indo-Pak relations had not improved sufficiently to allow two countries reduce their military establishments and noted US had made efforts to help India and Pakistan in finding solutions to such questions as Kashmir issue but so far these efforts had been "without significant success."

Story said Secretary was questioned closely by Senator Symington on Indo-Pak relations. Senator Symington said it was rather unique situation that Nehru was hailed as peace-maker yet his Army was "one of the largest armies in the world" and his Air Force several times larger than any other in that part of world; said India had intervened in Goa last year and had refused negotiate on Kashmir issue.

Secretary reportedly replied that at Geneva Disarmament Conference he tried to point out disarmament question not one that could serve two Big Powers alone but that "there are arms races in other parts of the world;" noted US regrets "that relations between India and Pakistan have not been such as to allow these arms establishments to be reduced in size."

Senator

State Dept. review completed

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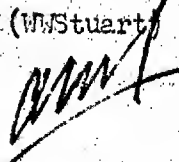
Senator Symington reportedly asked Secretary if he thought India could support this "gigantic" military establishment without US economic aid. Secretary replied, "I think that in the situation we could not suppose that he (Mr. Nehru) would substantially reduce his military establishment on economic grounds." Secretary commented further that if US did not provide aid to India, then India would not be able to move forward as rapidly with economic development. Senator Symington said he understood only 15 per cent of India's forces were deployed on border against China, and India had obtained arms from number of countries. Secretary said India, of course, had bought its military equipment internationally, and some had been obtained in US. Secretary quoted as stating that between 1956 and 1961, India's military budget fell from 20 per cent to 15 per cent of total Government outlay, thus enabling country to devote more to economic development; "I think it is also correct to say that Pakistan has dropped its military expenditure for the same purpose."

Senator Symington reportedly declared Pakistan was faced right on its own borders with three "enemies," which he identified as Communist China, Afghanistan and India; said, "So they have a real problem of defending themselves, which I don't think is true of the Indians." Secretary answered that US had given strong support to regional members of CENTO, to which Pakistan belongs, and US believed every effort should be made to work out amicable relations in area; if objective achieved, only security questions would be those affecting these countries from the north.

At another point, Senator Symington quoted as stating that Krishna Menon was "continually attacking the United States;" amid laughter, Senator Symington asked Secretary: "Do you feel that Mr. Nehru attacked Goa in order to be sure that he got Mr. Menon back as his Defense Minister, or do you think that was just coincidence?" Secretary reportedly replied, "No, I do not myself believe that there was that connotation in the Goa situation. We were very much opposed to it and took a strong position in the United Nations."

April 7 Statesman carried same Reuters report.

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